

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. An apparatus comprising:

5 a supporting structure including a generally vertically extending wall, the wall including at least two sets of generally horizontally-disposed apertures therein, wherein each set of apertures includes a first aperture and a second aperture, wherein the first aperture is disposed vertically above the second aperture; and

10 a releasible connecting member, wherein the connecting member in an operative position extends substantially between the sets of apertures and in releasible supporting connection with the wall, wherein the releasible connecting member is adapted for supporting items in operative connection therewith, wherein the releasible connecting member includes two disposed pairs of projecting portions corresponding to the sets of apertures, and wherein each pair of projecting portions includes a first projection and a second projection, and wherein in the operative position of the connecting member the first projection extends in a
15 first aperture and the second projection extends in a second aperture, and wherein in cross section the second projection extends from the connecting member in generally a first direction, and wherein the first projection includes an inner portion, wherein the inner portion extends from the connecting member in generally the first direction, and wherein the first projection includes an end portion, wherein the end portion extends generally transverse to the
20 first direction and away from the second projection, and wherein the connecting member is

placed in supporting connection with the wall by extending the end portions of the first projections in the first apertures of the sets and then rotating the connecting member relative to the wall to the operative position wherein the inner portions extend in the first apertures and the second projections extend in the second apertures.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the releasible connecting member comprises a body and wherein the first projection extends from the body, and wherein in the operative position of the connecting member the end portion and the body extend on opposed sides of the vertically extending wall.

3. The apparatus according to claim 2 and further comprising an outer wall extending generally parallel to and in operatively fixed connection with the vertically extending wall, wherein a space extends between the vertically extending wall and the outer wall and wherein in the operative position of the connecting member the end portion extends in the space.

4. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein a horizontally disposed pair of sets of apertures comprise an arrangement, and wherein the vertically extending wall comprises a plurality of vertically disposed arrangements of apertures, wherein the connecting member is positionable to engage any one of the arrangements of apertures in the operative position, whereby the connecting member is selectively vertically positionable relative to the vertically extending wall.

5. The apparatus according to claim 1 and further comprising a moveable item supporting member in operative supporting connection with the connecting member, wherein in the operative position of the connecting member the item supporting member is moveable relative to the wall.

6. The apparatus according to claim 5 wherein the item supporting member is moveable relative to the vertically extending wall in a generally horizontal direction.

7. The apparatus according to claim 4 wherein the vertically extending wall comprises a first wall with first arrangements of apertures therein, and further comprising:

a second wall, wherein the second wall is generally vertically extending and horizontally disposed from the first wall, wherein the second wall comprises a plurality of second arrangements of apertures therein, wherein each of the second arrangements generally vertically correspond to one corresponding first arrangement of apertures in the first wall, and

a first connecting member in operative connection with one of the first arrangements of apertures and a second connecting member in operative connection with one of the second arrangements of apertures, and an item supporting member in supporting connection with the first and second connecting members.

8. The apparatus according to claim 7 wherein the item supporting member is moveably mounted in supporting connection with the first and second connecting members, wherein the supporting member is generally moveable horizontally relative to the first and second walls.

9. The apparatus according to claim 8 and further comprising:

5 a plurality of first and second connecting members, each connecting member in supporting connection with the first and second walls respectively;

a plurality of item supporting members, each item supporting member independently moveably mounted in supporting connection with one first supporting member and one second supporting member.

10. The apparatus according to claim 8 wherein the item supporting member comprises a drawer.

11. The apparatus according to claim 8 wherein the item supporting member comprises a shelf.

12. The apparatus according to claim 9 wherein the item supporting members are
15 vertically spaced from one another by a first vertical distance, and wherein the first and

second arrangements of apertures are spaced from one another by generally the first vertical distance.

13. The apparatus according to claim 9 wherein the item supporting members are spaced from one another by a first vertical distance, and wherein the first and second arrangements of apertures are spaced from one another by a second vertical distance, wherein the second vertical distance is smaller than the first vertical distance.

14. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein at least one first aperture in a set is elongated generally horizontally, and wherein the first projection which extends in the one aperture in the operative position of the connecting member is elongated in a direction generally parallel to the first direction such that in the operative position of the connecting member the elongated first projection extends into and substantially fills the horizontally elongated first aperture.

15. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein at least one second aperture in a set is elongated generally vertically, and wherein the second projection which extends in the one second aperture in the operative position of the connecting member is elongated in a direction generally parallel to the first direction such that in the operative position of the connecting member the elongated second projection extends in and substantially fills the vertically elongated aperture.

16. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the first aperture in each of the sets is elongated generally horizontally and the second aperture in each of the sets is elongated generally vertically, and wherein the projections in the pairs are configured such that the first projections extend in and substantially fill the first apertures and the second projections extend in and substantially fill the second apertures.

17. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein in each of the sets of apertures the second aperture is disposed horizontally from the first aperture.

18. The apparatus according to claim 17 wherein the second apertures in the sets are spaced further apart horizontally than the first apertures in the sets.

19. The apparatus according to claim 7 and further comprising a plurality of first connecting members in supporting connection with the first wall, and a plurality of second connecting members in supporting connection with the second wall, wherein each of the first and second connecting members is configured to be engageable in the operative position with either the first wall or the second wall, and further comprising a plurality of item supporting members, wherein each item supporting member is in operative supporting connection with at least one first connecting member and at least one second connecting member.

20. A method comprising:

a) removing from the apparatus recited in claim 19 at least one item supporting member from supporting connection with the respective first and second connecting members;

and

b) installing in supporting connection with the first and second connecting members another item supporting member.

21. A method comprising:

a) removing from the apparatus recited in claim 19 at least one item supporting member from supporting connection with its respective first and second connecting members;

and

b) removing the first and second connecting members corresponding to the removed item supporting member from the first and second walls respectively.

22. The method according to claim 21 and further comprising the steps of:

c) reinstalling the first connecting member in supporting connection with one of the first or second walls, and reinstalling the second connecting member in supporting connection with the other of the first or second walls;

d) installing an item supporting member in supporting connection with the first and second connecting members.

23. The method according to claim 22 wherein in step (b) the first connecting member is disengaged from an arrangement of apertures in the first wall, and wherein in step (c) one of the connecting members is engaged with a different arrangement of apertures in the first wall.

24. A method comprising:

a) removing from the apparatus recited in claim 19 the plurality of item supporting members;


b) removing the plurality of first and second connecting members from supporting connection with the first and second walls;

c) installing a plurality of first and second connecting members in supporting connection with the first and second walls respectively;

d) installing a plurality of item supporting members in supporting connection with the first and second connecting members installed in step (c).


25. The method according to claim 24 and further comprising the step of:

e) placing a plurality of medical items in supporting connection with each of the
5 item supporting members.

 26. The method recited in claim 24 wherein the item supporting members are supported in an enclosure, the enclosure including the first and second walls, and further comprising the step of:

e) installing in connection with the enclosure at least one locking mechanism to restrict access to item supporting members installed in step (d).
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27. The method according to claim 26 and prior to step (e) further comprising the step of removing from supporting connection with the enclosure at least one locking mechanism for restricting access to at least one of the item supporting members removed in step (a).

 28. The method according to claim 26 and further comprising the steps of:

f) placing in supporting connection with each item supporting member at least
15 one type of medical item;

g) providing access to a selected type of medical item responsive to at least one pre-determined input to a user interface, wherein input of the pre-determined input is operative to cause the locking mechanism to provide access to the selected type of medical item.

29. An apparatus comprising:

5 a pair of drawer guides constructed to support a drawer and allow the drawer to move forward and backward in supporting connection therewith;

10 a pair of brackets wherein each drawer guide is in operatively fixed connection with a corresponding one of said brackets, wherein each bracket includes a substantially flat elongated member having a tab portion adjacent each longitudinal end, the tab portions extending in a first direction, wherein the elongated member further includes a finger portion adjacent an upper edge thereof, wherein the finger portion extends generally transverse to the first direction;

15 a plurality of walls defining a cabinet, the walls including a top, back, bottom and a pair of disposed side walls, each of the side walls having a plurality of openings therein, the plurality of openings having a pre-determined spacing and being configured to receive in releasibly engaging relation the finger portions and the tab portions of the brackets, wherein the openings in the side walls are generally horizontally aligned and vertically spaced wherein the drawer guides are selectively and vertically positionable in the cabinet.

30. The apparatus according to claim 29 wherein the plurality of openings comprise a first series of openings, wherein the openings in the first series are vertically spaced on each side wall, and wherein a finger portion is releasibly engageable in each of the openings in the first series.

5 31. The apparatus according to claim 29 wherein each bracket includes a finger portion adjacent each longitudinal end, and wherein the first series of openings include in each side wall one row of vertically spaced openings and a second row of vertically spaced openings, wherein the openings in the second row are horizontally disposed from the openings in the first row.

10 32. The apparatus according to claim 30 wherein each of the openings in the first series has a size substantially similar to the finger portion on the elongated member.

15 33. The apparatus according to claim 30 wherein the plurality of openings further comprises a second series of openings in each side wall, wherein each of the openings in the second series are vertically spaced on each side wall, wherein a tab portion is releasibly engageable in each of the openings in the second series.

34. The apparatus according to claim 33 wherein the second series of openings includes in each side wall, one row of vertically spaced openings and a second row of vertically spaced

openings, wherein the openings in the first row are horizontally disposed from the openings in the second row.

35. The apparatus according to claim 34 wherein each of the openings in the second series of openings has a size substantially similar to the tab portion on the elongated member.

5 36. The apparatus according to claim 29 wherein the cabinet includes as least one outer wall, wherein the outer wall is outwardly disposed from at least one of the side walls, and wherein a space extends between the side wall and the outer wall, and wherein the finger portions extend in the space.

37. The apparatus according to claim 29 and further comprising a door, wherein the door is moveably mounted in supporting connection with the cabinet.

38. The apparatus according to claim 37 and further comprising a lock module in operative connection with the cabinet, wherein the lock module is selectively operative to change between a secured condition wherein the door is held in closing relation with the cabinet and an unsecured condition wherein the door is enabled to be opened.

39. The apparatus according to claim 38 and further comprising at least one type of medical item stored in the cabinet, a user input device in operative connection with the lock module and a computer in operative connection with the user input device, the computer in

operative connection with a data store, wherein the data store includes data representative of a storage location within the cabinet, the type medical item stored in the storage location in the cabinet and authorized inputs for enabling access to the medical item, and wherein the computer is operative responsive to authorized inputs to the user interface to cause the condition of the lock module to change to the unsecured condition, whereby the type of medical items stored in the storage location may be accessed.

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